

## **AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS**

### **IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please **AMEND** claims 1, 5, 7, 9, 10, 13 and 14; and

Please **ADD** new claims 33-39.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

### **Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A system for loading product, comprising:  
a conveyor movable in at least a first direction; and  
a metering section located proximate to at an end of the conveyor, the metering section including:  
a plate mechanism movable between a first position proximate the end of the conveyor and a second position remote from the conveyor; and  
a door adapted to be opened to a feeder, the door at least partially supporting a predetermined amount of product and being positioned between a movable distance of the plate; and  
an additional plate mechanism configured to move the product positioned between the additional plate mechanism and the plate mechanism so as to cause the product to press against the plate mechanism.

2. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the product is at least mail pieces.

3. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the conveyor is a belt conveyor.

4. (Original) The system of claim 3, wherein the belt conveyor includes cogs which form grooves thereon.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~The system of claim 1,~~ A system for loading product, comprising:

a conveyor movable in at least a first direction; and

a metering section located proximate to at an end of the conveyor, the metering section including:

a plate mechanism movable between a first position proximate the end of the conveyor and a second position remote from the conveyor; and

a door adapted to be opened to a feeder, the door at least partially supporting a predetermined amount of product and being positioned between a movable distance of the plate,

wherein the conveyor is movable towards and away from the metering section to, respectively, load product into the metering section and provide separation between the product on the conveyor and the metering section when the metering section is filled.

6. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the door is a drop gate positioned below a radius of the conveyor at the end.

7. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, further comprising an opposing moving plate positioned at another ~~end~~ portion of the conveyor, the opposing moving plate and the plate providing a pressure on product placed therebetween.

8. (Original) The system of claim 7, wherein the opposing moving plate is movable independent of the conveyor.

9. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, further comprising a sensor for sensing a position of the ~~movable~~ plate and activating the opening of the door.

10. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, further comprising a controller which synchronizes or coordinates movement of the ~~movable~~ plate, the conveyor and the door.

11. (Original) The system of claim 10, wherein the controller stops movement of the conveyor and the plate and opens the door when the metering section is filled with product.

12. (Original) The system of claim 1, further comprising a solenoid for moving the plate.

13. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the plate is spring loaded to position the ~~plat~~ plate in an original position after release of the product.

14. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the plate ~~further supports~~ presses against the product and the door is openable to release the product.

Claims 15-19 (Canceled).

20. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the plate is spring loaded.

Claims 21-32 (Canceled).

33. (New) The system of claim 1, wherein the additional plate mechanism is movable along a direction that is different from a movement direction of the plate mechanism.

34. (New) The system of claim 1, wherein the feeder utilizes a plurality of spaced apart paddles, wherein the paddles are movable between a first position underneath the door to a position downstream of the first position.

35. (New) A system for loading product, comprising:

a conveyor movable in at least a first direction;

a metering section located proximate to at an end of the conveyor, the metering section including:

a first plate mechanism movable between a first position proximate the end of the conveyor and a second position remote from the conveyor; and

a door adapted to be opened to a feeder, the door at least partially supporting a predetermined amount of product and being positioned between a movable distance of the plate;

a controller that controls the movements of at least the conveyor, the first plate mechanism, and the door; and

at least one of:

a biasing device that applies a spring load against the product; and

a biasing device that allows the first plate mechanism to return to an original position after release of the product to a feeder by the door.

36. (New) The system of claim 35, further comprising a feeder comprising a plurality of spaced apart paddles, wherein the paddles are movable between a

first position underneath the door to a position downstream of the first position.

37. (New) The system of claim 35, further comprising a second plate mechanism movable between a first position and a second position, wherein, in the second position, the product is arranged between the first and second plate mechanisms.

38. (New) The system of claim 37, wherein the second plate mechanism is movable along a direction that is different from a movement direction of the first plate mechanism.

39. (New) The system of claim 35, further comprising a movable knife blade mechanism configured to move between a first position and a second position, wherein, in the second position, the product is arranged between the movable knife mechanism and the first plate mechanism.